

What is claim d is:

1. An apparatus for storing optical fiber comprising:
a support member; and
at least a first spindle disposed on said support member, said spindle
5 offset with respect to the rotational center of said support member,
wherein the diameter of at least a portion of said at least a first spindle
is sufficiently large to prevent attenuation of optical signals transmitted over
optical fiber disposed around the circumference of said spindle.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a holding member,
10 said holding member adapted to hold said support member and said spindle
in a way such that said support member is constrained in at least a first
direction of movement.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said holding member is adapted
to hold a plurality of support members.
- 15 4. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said holding member comprises a
plate having a plurality of posts adapted in a way such that said support
member can lie horizontally between said posts.
5. The apparatus of claim 4 further comprising means for holding said
support members substantially stationary with respect to said holding member.
- 20 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said means for holding comprises
a plurality of holes disposed in said posts and a plurality of screws adapted to
be screwed into said holes.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least a first spindle
comprises two spindles.
- 25 8. A method for storing an optical fiber comprising:
securing at least a portion of said optical fiber onto an optical fiber reel,
said optical fiber reel comprising a plurality of spindles; and
rotating said optical fiber reel in a way such that said optical fiber is
wound around at least a portion of each of said plurality of spindles,

wherein, said optical fiber is wound in a substantially linear fashion in a way such that said fiber experiences substantially no torsional stress as it is wound around said at least a portion of each of said plurality of spindles.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said plurality of spindles comprises
5 two spindles.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said step of securing comprises attaching a portion of said optical fiber to the rotational center of a support member of said spindles.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said portion of said optical fiber is
10 that portion that is half the distance along the fiber from the ends of said fiber.